

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:  
responsive to an instruction pointer (IP) signal, that includes an IP tag and an IP set;  
reading, from a plurality of ways, an entry tag, an entry bank number and entry data; ~~and~~  
concurrently comparing (i) each entry tag and entry bank number with (ii) the IP tag and  
an identifier of each of the plurality of banks, wherein each entry is a way and the number of  
banks is independent from the number of ways; and

selecting data based on results of said comparing,

wherein the comparing includes:

concatenating (i) each entry tag and entry bank number;

concatenating (ii) the IP tag and a number representing each of the plurality of  
banks; and

comparing the concatenated entry tag and entry bank number with the  
concatenated IP tag and number representing each of the plurality of banks.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2120, wherein each entry further comprises  
an entry valid field and said selecting is further based on the entry valid field.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the plurality of banks in the  
branch target buffer are implemented in a single array.

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